

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

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a1* 1 A method for manufacturing a single book set having at least one book, comprising manufacturing the book set so that the book set can be physically placed within a book storage space, at least one dimension of the book storage space being defined by a customer.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising receiving input from the customer indicating the at least one dimension.

3. The method of claim 2, further comprising receiving input from the customer identifying each book in the book set.

4. The method of claim 3, further comprising receiving payment information from the customer to purchase the book set.

5. The method of claim 3, further comprising receiving payment information from the customer to purchase the book set prior to performing the manufacturing step.

6. The method of claim 5, further comprising providing the customer with a purchase cost to purchase the book set for performing the manufacturing step.

7. A book on demand system, comprising:

(a) an order placement system capable of receiving input from a user identifying a set of books and at least one dimension of a storage space that will be used to store the at least one book; and

(b) means, responsive to the input, for manufacturing the set of books so that the set of books can be placed physically within the storage space.

1 8. The book on demand system of claim 7, wherein the order
2 placement system is capable of providing the user with a purchase cost to
3 purchase the set of books.

1 9. The book on demand system of claim 8, wherein the order
2 placement system is further capable of receiving payment information from the
3 user to purchase the set of books and the manufacturing means only
4 manufactures the set of books after the order placement system receives the
5 payment information.

1 10. The book on demand system of claim 9, wherein the order
2 system includes an electronic database for storing, in an electronic form, each
3 book in the set of books.

1 11. The book on demand system of claim 10, wherein the
2 manufacturing means includes at least one printer, coupled to the order
3 placement system, for printing the books..

1 12. A method for manufacturing books, comprising:
2 (a) receiving input from a customer identifying books the
3 customer wishes to purchase;
4 (b) receiving input from the same customer defining at least one
5 dimension of a book storage space; and
6 (c) producing a single copy of each book identified by the
7 customer in step (a) in a manner so the books, as a set, can be stored within the
8 book storage space.

1 13. The method of claim 12, further comprising:
2 (d) receiving payment from the customer to purchase a single
3 copy of each book identified in step (a).

~~41/44.~~ The method of claim 13, wherein step (c) is performed only after step (d) is performed.

15. The method of claim 14, further comprising:

(e) providing a purchase price to the customer to purchase a
each book identified in step (a)

16. The method of claim 15, wherein step (c) includes the following substep:

(c) determining a media size for use in printing the cover of at least one of the books as a function of the input received in step (b).

17. The method of claim 16, wherein the producing step includes the following substep:

(c2) determining a media size for use in printing the pages of at least one of the books as a function of the input received in step (b).

18. The method of claim 17, wherein the producing step further includes the following substep:

(c3) printing the cover on media having a size determined in step c1.

19. The method of claim 18, wherein the producing step further includes the following substep:

(c4) printing the pages on media having a size determined in
step c2.